

COMMENTS

The enclosed is responsive to the Examiner's Office Action mailed on October 6, 2003 and to a telephone conversation with the Examiner on December 5, 2003. Applicant has amended claims 1, 16 and 26 and cancelled Claims 2, 4, 5, 28 and 29. Claims 1,3, 6-8, 16-27 and 30-32 are pending.

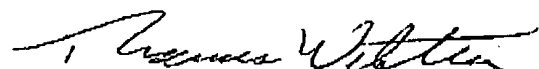
Applicant respectfully submits that the current set of claims are allowable over the prior art of record. If the Examiner believes an additional telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Thomas C. Webster at (408) 720-8300.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date: 12/8/03


Thomas C. Webster
Reg. No. 46,154

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300

09/714,320

8

04676.P004X